GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:81
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2000
REMOVAL OF POVERTY
P.R. KHUTE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the `International Monetary Fund` has attractedthe concern of the Indian Government towards the imbalanced growth and high rate of poverty in the country through its report named as `World Economic Outlook`;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government on the criticisms made by the International Monetary Fund; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for improving the situation in respect of imbalanced growth and high rate of poverty?

Answer

MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA)

a) to d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Starred Question No. 81 to be answered on Friday the 24th November, 2000 regarding Removal of Poverty.

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) In its publications `World Economic Outlook` (May and October 2000), theInternational Monetary Fund as, wile noting the remarkable economic performance achieved by India in recent years, mentioned tat in India the poverty rates remained l and its uneven progress raised questions about the impact of the economic and structural reforms implemented since the mid 1980s on growth in India, and what more can be done to reduce poverty.

(c) the Government of India have noted the points made by the International Monetary Fundand are fully cognizant of the need for the equity to accompany economic growth so as to achieve substantial and speedy reduction in poverty.

(d) Government are implementing a comprehensive strategy for e balanced planned development and eradication of poverty which emphasizes upon :

(i) accelerated economic growth with a focus on sectors tat are employment intensive;

(ii) human and social development through basic minimum services; and

(iii) targeted anti poverty programs for income generation through self employment, supplementary wage employment, and protective social security.